Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10-12, 15-18 and 20-22 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 11 and 17 are amended. Claims 3, 4, 9, 13, 14 and 19 were previously cancelled. Claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18 and 20 remain unchanged. Claims 21 and 22 are newly added.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 11-12, and 14-16, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickinger (U.S. Publication No. 2001/0032333), in view of Aristides et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,630,119, hereinafter referred to as "Aristides").

Claims 7-8, and 17-18, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Aristides, in view of Flickinger.

Claims 10 and 20, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Aristides, in view of Flickinger, and in further view of Stoel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,905,942, hereinafter referred to as "Stoel").

It is respectfully asserted that neither Flickinger, Aristides, nor Stoel, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the step of:

> "accessing the locally stored program guide to create the requested update, wherein the update comprises program schedule information for a plurality of channels related to said information related to navigation of the program guide contained in said request from said remote terminal,"

as described in currently amended claim 1.

Flickinger teaches a "method and system whereby conventional television advertisements (i.e., those delivered to viewers while they watch television programming) can be delivered in conjunction with and correlated with advertisements that are presented to viewers in the Interactive Program Guide (IPG). Moreover, the invention described

herein provides for delivering highly targeted ads to viewers in both conventional programming avails and in the IPG, and for linking the targeted ads in these two media to provide for enhanced and highly effective advertising campaigns." (Flickinger Abstract)

Flickinger does not disclose the acquisition of program guide data at an intermediate location like a mini head-end or the providing of updates of program schedule information for multiple channels by that mini head-end to remote terminals in response to navigation of the program guide at the terminal. Thus, Flickinger fails to disclose at least the step of "accessing the locally stored program guide to create the requested update, wherein the update comprises program schedule information for a plurality of channels_related to said information related to navigation of the program guide contained in said request from said remote terminal," as described in currently amended claim 1.

Aristides discloses "an interactive entertainment distribution network including a headend which is connected to provide programs to a plurality of user interface units in individual homes. The user interface units are configured to run electronic program guides for displaying available programs categorized by discrete time slots. Each of the programs has a scheduled time period which occupies at least a portion of one or more of the discrete time slots. The headend maintains a database with a plurality of program data records. Each program data record is indexed by one of a plurality of bucket numbers. The bucket numbers correspond respectively to the plurality of discrete time slots. Each particular program is represented by a program data record and associated bucket number for each of the one or more discrete time slots which the program occupies. The electronic program guide requests programming information from the headend by specifying one or more bucket numbers to the headend." (Aristides Abstract)

Aristides does not disclose, nor does the Office Action assert that it discloses, providing an update of locally stored program guide data to remote terminals based upon requests from those terminals containing information about guide navigation. Thus, Aristides, like Flickinger, fails to disclose at least the step of "accessing the locally stored program guide to create the requested update, wherein the update comprises program

schedule information for a plurality of channels_related to said information related to navigation of the program guide contained in said request from said remote terminal," as described in currently amended claim 1.

In Stoel, an "audio/video distribution system for a multiple dwelling unit such as an apartment building provides programming which is selectable by a subscriber through the interactive use of on-screen menus. Programming and services are supplied from a headend over a distribution network to individual apartments. The distribution network includes an interdiction field unit associated with each of a group of apartments. The interdiction field unit normally interdicts those channels capable of carrying video on demand movies, interactive video games, and interactive services. When a subscriber wishes to order a movie, video game, or other service through interactive on-screen menus provided from the headend to the apartment, the headend instructs the interdiction field unit associated with the subscriber's apartment to de-interdict a channel. Selections made through a remote control to a subscriber terminal in the apartment are supplied to the headend over the distribution system. The channel remains deinterdicted during the playing of a movie, video game, or interactive service selected by the subscriber, based upon the signals received from the subscriber terminal during the interactive on-screen menu session." (Stoel Abstract)

Stoel also does not disclose, nor does the Office Action assert that it discloses, providing an update of locally stored program guide data to remote terminals based upon requests from those terminals containing information about guide navigation. Thus, Stoel, like Aristides and Flickinger, fails to disclose at least the step of "accessing the locally stored program guide to create the requested update, wherein the update comprises program schedule information for a plurality of channels_related to said information related to navigation of the program guide contained in said request from said remote terminal," as described in currently amended claim 1.
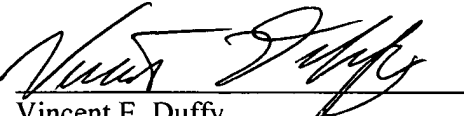
In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted there is no 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure provided by Flickinger, Aristides, or Stoel, alone or in combination, which makes the present invention as claimed in claim 1 unpatentable under 35 USC 103. It is further submitted that independent claims 7, 11, and 17 are allowable for at least the

same reasons that claim 1 is allowable. Since dependent claims 2, 5-6, 8, 10, 12, 15-16, 18, and 20-22, are dependent from allowable independent claims 1, 7, 11, and 17, it is submitted that they too are allowable for at least the same reasons that their respective independent claims are allowable. Thus, it is further submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's representative at (818) 480-5319, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date: August 24, 2010